

By JACK O. BALDWIN

The boys at Torrance High School will no doubt be pleased to learn that there is no rule banning them from wearing plunging necklines.

While television necklines have plunged to an all-time low, the coeds at Torrance High School have drawn a mythical horizontal line below which the vertical neckline must not plunge.

These and other regulations are contained in a "Rules and Regulations" bulletin published recently by the Girls League at Torrance High.

Also on the "Mustn't Wear List" are shorts, pedal-pushers, and bare midriffs.

According to the terminology of the regulations any boy who may feel so inclined can wear his hair up in pin curls without a permit.

The girls are allowed two such permits per semester. The boys are apparently given their freedom along these lines because, and we quote from the regulations:

"There are no corresponding rules at the school which apply just to the boys."

The problem of smoking is neatly tucked away in an 11-word sentence stating simply: "No smoking during school hours, on or near the school grounds."

"Guess I'm a bit old-fashioned, but I can't quite get used to seeing little high school girls smoking king-sized cigarettes."

While low necklines were boycotted by the girls I wonder why they overlooked the boys' plunging waistlines. They are as low as possible now, and if they get any lower we'll see possible. Shirt-givers this Christmas may find that some shirts are higher priced than last year.

This, explains one well-known local merchant, is due to extra-long shirt tails demanded by blue jean sets.

Shirts will soon come marked in three sizes: neck size, sleeve length, and length of the tails. The fad of dangling the waistline on the points of the hip bone has been a boon to blue jean manufacturers. They can clip off about six inches from the pant legs.

Ah, well, youth must have its fling!

COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL, LOS ANGELES—Doctors have abandoned probing for a piece of plastic breathing apparatus which they believed earlier this week may have been dropped into the throat of Fred Diesel, 14-year-old iron lung patient.

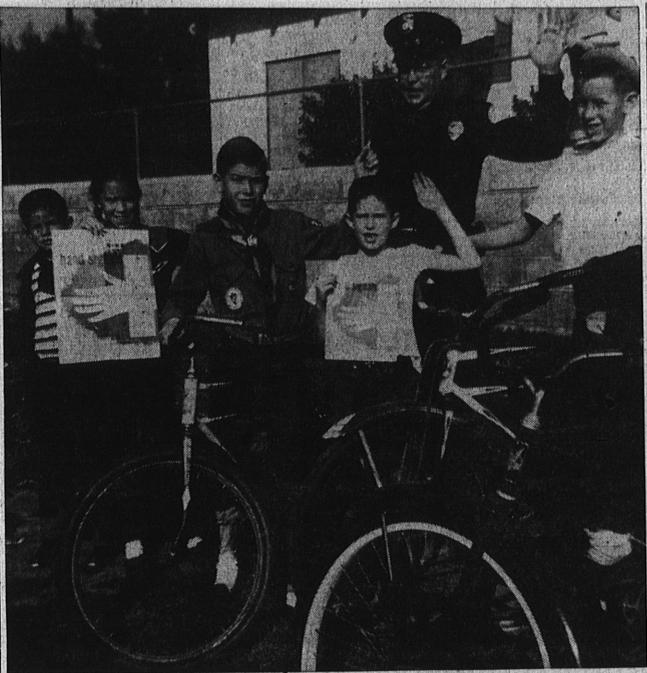
The search for the missing plastic device was carried right into the throat of the stricken Torrance High School sophomore when hospital attendants were unable to locate the small object after it came loose from Diesel's air supply equipment.

Several x-rays failed to reveal the object in the boy's throat, but this development still did not confirm the absence of the device since the x-rays would have penetrated the plastic as easily as it does bones.

The boy's mother, Mrs. William Diesel, said yesterday that although her son was still paralyzed from the neck down, he was doing nicely until Monday when doctors began probing his throat causing some slight irritation. She said, however, that it had not affected his ability to eat solid foods and he was not being fed intravenously as first reported.

She said the youth had claimed he had felt a slight pain in one arm and that doctors were hopeful that within a week or so he would be able to move the arm.

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS, HONOLULU—Judy Wixom, seven-year-old iron lung patient, will play Santa Claus this Christmas to the other polio patients in her ward through the kindness of the third grade students at Fern Ave. School in Torrance. Little Judy's plight (she has



HAND SIGNALS . . . Reserve Officer Don Whitney is here showing members of the Riviera Bicycle Club how to use bike hand signals. Left to right are John Wyatt, Anne Parker, Lane Smith, Chipper Whitney, Hewey Miller. The Riviera PTA sponsors the club. This meeting was held last Saturday.



SLOGAN POSTERS . . . Members of the Junior Riviera Bicycle Club show off poster slogans they will use in a Safety Poster Contest which will be judged at the January meeting of the Riviera PTA. The club has been organized to promote safe bicycle riding habits among the young Riverans.

Power Company Cites Costs in Rate Boost

The first rate increase in 31 years was requested Tuesday by the Southern California Edison Co. in an application filed with the California Public Utilities Commission.

Cost of the increase to the average domestic customer would be about 25 cents a month, and would add about \$16,000,000 to the company's annual gross revenue.

"It is imperative that this application should be filed at this time," W. C. Mullendore, Edison Company president, said when the application was filed.

"A rate increase for us is inescapable in the light of the continuing increase in the cost of everything that goes into electric service," he added.

Mullendore said the rate revision was necessary to maintain the high standard of service to customers, to meet the requirements of new customers, and, in general, to keep up with the growing load that has come to the company with the increase in population and business activity in Southern California.

"It is not possible for the Edison Company to stand still," he explained. "We must expand with the expansion of Southern California. Consequently, our construction program continues at a very high and costly rate."

The requested rate increase for electrical service followed similar applications filed recently by the Southern California Gas Co. and the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. The gas rate hike would cost the average user from \$1 to \$1.50 a month and the phone boost a similar amount.

Each company, in filing with the Public Utilities Commission for rate increases, has cited the raising cost of material, wages, and other expenses as forcing the request for a price hike.

New Procedure For Court Told

(Continued From Page 1) Beach, Hermosa, and possibly Palos Verdes, Small Claims.

TUESDAY—Felony preliminary cases for all cities. Misdemeanor trials for the unincorporated areas of Lawndale, Lomita, and Rolling Hills following the felony cases.

WEDNESDAY—Same as for Tuesday.

THURSDAY—Misdemeanors from Manhattan Beach, Small claims.

FRIDAY—Misdemeanor trials for Torrance and Gardena. Small claims.

SATURDAY—Traffic arraignments, probation hearings, and sentences.

Civil cases will be heard each day.

It is foreseen that both Judge Shidler and Willett will work in somewhat crowded quarters, until Judge Willett's new courtroom is completed next summer.

City Court Offered

If space elsewhere is required, the courtroom at Torrance, which has a jury box and chambers, has been offered by the city of Torrance. It is planned to hold small claims hearings here if the Torrance merchants and other central Torrance residents file such actions. Some misdemeanor trials could also be held at the central Torrance court as a convenience to central Torrance witnesses, Shidler said.

"Judge Willett and I have planned as carefully as possible to improve the service to the whole area," Judge Shidler stated.

"The police departments may arraign their prisoners in custody six days a week. Traffic violators also will get prompt service with ample parking.

"Our area is expanding so rapidly that the volume of business is our main worry," Judge Shidler continued. "In Los Angeles and Long Beach one municipal judge serves each 50,000 persons. Here Judge Willett and I must serve 200,000 people. We pray our citizens will behave so that our calendars will not get behind."

Duties to Change

The calendar plans indicated above will be changed from time to time as experience requires. While Judge Shidler will carry the greater criminal load and Judge Willett the greater civil and small claims, each judge will help the other when available. It is also expected that the judges will change duties from time to time.

"We know that readjustments will have to be made by all. Particularly we expect the eight separate law-enforcement agencies to suffer patiently while we re-establish the judicial pattern of the area. Probably the chiefs of police of Torrance and Gardena will be required to make the most radical operational changes. Their suggestions always will command our attention and consideration," Judge Shidler concluded.

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WORD DISPUTE

Official British reports refer to Egypt as being in the Middle East. The United States State Department says it is in the Near East.



CHOIR IN SPOTLIGHT . . . Voices of the First Christian Church choir will ring out next Sunday morning, Dec. 21, with Handel's best-known oratorio, "The Messiah." Program will be presented at the 10:45 o'clock worship service.

Bank to Move To Furniture Company Bldg.

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home of the Star Furniture Co. anticipates there will be no change in the policy of offering modern, high grade merchandise at prices as low as the market will allow. Parking for 20 to 30 cars will be provided at the new location, according to Higgins. The building is to be of modern design with "plenty of glass" in exterior walls. The building will be erected by Koch and leased to his former employees.

A factor considered by the banking officials in the purchase of the Star Furniture Co. building was the availability of ample free parking area. The lot facing on Post Ave. in the rear of the building encompasses more than 13,950 sq. ft.—more than double the area of the present bank parking lot on Sartori Ave. It will accommodate from 68 to 70 cars as compared to the 28-car capacity of the Sartori Ave. lot.

The present home of the Bank of America was constructed in 1925. The building was first shared by the Bank of Italy (former name of Bank of America) which only shortly before had purchased the State Exchange Bank and various tenants including the Southern California Edison Co. and a flower shop until the demands of the banking firm became so great that the bank remodeled the building to incorporate the adjacent store area into the bank.

The present home of the bank is 60 feet by 77 feet, with 4620 square feet of floor space. The new home will be 60 feet by 140 feet with 8400 square feet plus the mezzanine area.

Brused and Cut

Mrs. Leora Sulser, 54, was bruised and cut in an accident Sunday afternoon on Normandie Ave. near Ocean Ave. when the car in which she was riding, driven by her husband, Henry, 56, 1572 W. 216th St., collided with one driven by Joseph W. Skaggs, 34, 1801 W. 256th St.

Choir to Present 'Messiah' Sunday

The First Christian Church choir will present Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah," next Sunday morning, Dec. 21, at the 10:45 o'clock worship service.

"The Messiah," best known of Handel's works, was composed in 1741 in 24 days, from Aug. 22 to Sept. 14. It was first performed at a concert given for charitable purposes at Dublin, Ire., on April 13, 1742, with Handel conducting.

Solo recitatives and arias will be sung Sunday by Mary Bartholomew, Helen Levy and Lorita Lincoln, sopranos; Betty Brunum and Margaret Foster, altos; Fred Lincoln and Dean Loughe, tenors; and Lin Brunum, bass.

Director Named

Charles Bartholomew will direct the choir, assisted by Janet Poh, organist, and Ruth Shellman, pianist.

The Rev. Cecil J. England will conduct the services. The Christmas Story will be shown in colored slides made by children in the church school Sunday evening, 7 o'clock, at the children's Yule program.

Several age groups participated in the scenes, photographed by Walt Levy with the assistance of Laverne Jones, Mesdames Verna England, Mary Rood, Margaret Foster, Caroline Kuchs, and Ethel Mosley created costumes and arranged the program.

Script and music for the show will be provided by recordings. In keeping with the spirit of Christmas, everyone attending is invited to participate by bringing a gift of money or toys for other children who will have no Christmas except for these gifts. Children to be helped are orphans from eight to 10 years old.

Auto-Ambulance Crash Kills One

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In other minor accidents the police blotter registered collisions between cars driven by: Joseph Breyer, 1737 Herrin, Redondo Beach, and Joseph E. Curtis, 22638 Ravenmar, Wilmington, at 6 p.m. Saturday at the intersection of Hawthorne and Sepulveda.

Patrick J. McGuinness, 1447 Emgracia, and Kenneth D. Bancroft, 24310 Pennsylvania, Lomita, at 11:10 p.m. Saturday at Five Points.

F. L. Tolliver, 8943 Elizabeth, South Gate, and Fred L. Guerra, 2235 W. 203rd, at 11:20 a.m. Monday, in the Bank of America parking lot on Sartori.

Harumi Sasaki, 23, 19329 Lemoll, Hawthorne, and Lucille Dotson, 50, 353 Ave. E, Redondo Beach, at 3:59 p.m. Monday on Amie St., off Torrance Blvd.

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Central Church To Hear Famous Cantata Sunday

Morning worship service at 11 o'clock next Sunday morning at the Central Evangelical United Brethren Church will feature a Christmas cantata, "Even Unto Bethlehem," sung by the choir.

Mrs. Irene Hoy will direct the group, with the assistance of Mrs. Hilda Findley at the organ. Soloists will be Carl Pisel, tenor; Charles Miller, baritone; Howard McDonald, bass; Mrs. Catherine Norman, contralto; and Mrs. Genevieve Osteen, soprano.

It is the first time in the memory of hospital attaches that a blond-haired, seven-year-old polio patient in an iron lung has ever played Santa Claus.



CITY COLLECTION UNITS . . . Torrance's modern collection equipment works around the clock to keep the city streets, alleys, and public areas clean at all times. Shown here are the two mechanical street sweepers,

the load-packer trash trucks, and general trash trucks, which cover the city on a daily schedule picking up trash, tree trimmings, and waste paper. A story of the complete operation may be found on Page 11.